

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 10, replace the paragraph beginning on line 7 with the following:

Fig. 6 depicts how OSNR due to DRS varies versus Raman gain for a prior art single-stage amplifier and for two-stage and three-stage Raman amplifiers employing pump reuse according to one embodiment of the present invention. For the simulation DSF is used with an assumed effective area of 50 um^2 and an assumed DRS coefficient of 10^{-7} m^{-1} . The attenuation coefficients assumed for the signal and the pump are 0.225 dB/km and 0.26 dB/km respectively. The solid curve shows data for a single-stage Raman amplifier with a section of 16 km of dispersion shifted fiber (DSF). The dotted curve shows data for the Raman amplifier of Fig. 4 with two fiber sections with 9 km of DSF each. The dashed curve shows data for a three-stage Raman amplifier as in Fig. 5 with three fiber sections having 7 km of DSF each.